



## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting  
November 16, 2005**

Vice Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Vice Chair Watkins, Commissioners Luder, Maurano, Silano and Whittaker.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Curtis Brown, Community Services Director; Linda Munguia, Secretary

**ABSENT:** Chair Cline, Commissioner Robinson

### **A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:**

None

### **B. COMMISSION VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS:**

Vice Chair Watkins gave the Commissioners a report that the Ravenswood After School Program had prepared requesting for funding. The request was denied; she will let the Commissioners know what the next step will be.

### **C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1:**

Kim Rubin – Menlo Park addressed the Commission regarding the Bayfront Park Proposals. He mentioned that he is angry that the City Council ignored the wishes of the Commission to stop the Bayfront Park Proposals. He mentioned that he thinks the Commission should resign due to lack of respect from the City Council and Staff.

### **D. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes:**

Approve the October 19, 2005 minutes

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes for October 19, 2005 with a modification on the public comment of Robin Smith who addressed the Commission at the October 19 meeting regarding Bayfront Park.

**Motion Commissioner Luder, seconded by Commissioner Silano and unanimously carried.**

### **E. PUBLIC HEARING: None.**

### **F. REGULAR BUSINESS:**

#### **1. Bayfront Park Development**

Curtis Brown, Community Services Director, gave the Commissioners an update on the Bayfront Park Proposals. He mentioned that the direction of the City Council is for staff to negotiate with Highlands Golf and to bring the draft agreement to the Parks & Recreation Commission before it goes to the City Council. In the meantime, research should be done to build a better database on sports participation, rates and unmet demands. He also mentioned that over the next few months an inventory should be done on existing fields, alternative locations pursued and other locations evaluated in the Recreation Master Plan.

### **Public Comments**

Robin Smith, Atherton, Sequoia Audubon Society, brought the Commissioners a San Mateo County Breeding Bird Atlas. She also mentioned that she is very concerned about the proposal given to the City Council since the developer, Highland Golf, does not have much experience.

Beth Breedlove, Menlo Park addressed the Commission with her opposition to the Bayfront Park proposals. She mentioned that she goes to Bayfront Park a lot and sees families and enjoys the park. She mentioned that she is willing to work on looking for other alternatives for revenue.

Steve Schmidt, Menlo Park, addressed the Commission regarding the Bayfront Park proposals. He mentioned that he believes the Commission should put a Task Force together for input and recommendations and to come up with alternatives.

Judy Rocchio, Menlo Park addressed the Commission with her opposition to the Bayfront Park proposals. She mentioned that the City should wait on this proposal until the City reads the plans of the residents in the budget survey that was mailed out to Menlo Park residents.

John Slater, Menlo Park addressed the Commission with his opposition to the Bayfront Park proposals. He mentioned that about 600 people use the park daily; his recommendation is that the City should charged \$1 per person.

Bruce Shapiro, Menlo Park addressed the Commission with his opposition to the Bayfront Park proposals. He mentioned that he is the head of Friends of Bayfront Park and that Bayfront is a park for people and putting a golf course would be inappropriate.

Chris Macintosh, Menlo Park addressed the Commission with her opposition to the Bayfront Park proposals. She mentioned that she would like to see Bayfront Park kept as open space. It is peaceful and quiet. She mentioned that she understands the City needs sports fields but Bayfront Park is not the place for it.

Kim Rubin, Menlo Park addressed the Commission regarding the Bayfront Park proposals. He mentioned that a parking fee would not be a problem for residents and is a great idea for alternative funding.

Daina Avidozna, Redwood City addressed the Commission with her opposition to the Bayfront Park proposals. She mentioned that she runs her dogs every morning at the park and meets her friends and enjoys interacting with the people at the park. She also mentioned that Bayfront is the only park where children can learn about birds.

Brielle Johnck, Menlo Park addressed the Commission regarding the Bayfront Park proposals. She mentioned that back in 1992 the City Council did not want to put a soccer field at Seminary Oaks Park and that now would be a good time to look at it again for fields.

Kris Delisle, County of San Mateo addressed the Commission regarding the Bayfront Park proposals. He mentioned that the second the land is used as a golf course the open space is lost.

### **Commission Recommendation**

**Motion Commissioner Luder that at the December 21st Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting the Commission agree to do a field inventory, usage survey of existing fields and create a methodology on how to survey the usage at Bayfront Park. Seconded by Commissioner Silano and unanimously carried.**

**Motion Commissioner Maurano to form a Task Force of 3 Commissioners to do further studies and ask staff for information when needed regarding Bayfront Park. Seconded by Commissioner Whittaker and unanimously carried.**

**2. Buy a Brick Program Update**

Will be discussed on the December 21, 2005 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

**G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**H. PUBLIC COMMENT #2**

None

**I. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.